

No Budget? **NO PAY.**

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the No Budget, No Pay Act?

The No Budget, No Pay Act (H.R. 310) says that if Congress doesn't pass its budget and all its appropriations bills by October 1st every year, then Congress doesn't get paid. Retroactive pay isn't an option. Once pay is withheld, it's gone for good.

Why is the No Budget, No Pay Act Needed?

Congress should be held accountable for not fulfilling its duties. Passing a budget and appropriations bills are basic responsibilities of Congress. Congress still has not adopted a budget conference report in more than 1,700 days. Congress has also failed to pass its appropriations bills on time for 17 straight years. Congress has missed so many budget and appropriations deadlines over the years that no one takes them seriously. For far too long, we have run government on a short-term basis, sometimes month-to-month or even week-to-week. This is inexcusable.

Why will the No Budget, No Pay Act Work?

Americans work hard for their paychecks, and so must Congress. Members of Congress shouldn't be getting paid if they can't do their work. Threatening to stop paying Congress is the best way to make sure we beat the annual October 1st deadline. We've already seen it start to work. Bottom line: no budget, no pay. No appropriations bills, no pay. It's that simple.

A version of No Budget, No Pay passed the House and was signed into law. Is it the Cooper plan?

No. It's similar but not exactly the same. A chart below provides details.

COOPER NBNP ACT VS. CURRENT LAW

BILL DETAIL	COOPER BILL	CURRENT LAW
<u>Both House AND Senate</u> Would Be Penalized (Not Just One Chamber)	✓	
Mandates That <u>Budget AND Appropriations Bills</u> Must Be Passed On Time (Not Just Budget)	✓	
<u>Mandates Conference Reports</u> So That Both Houses Agree To Same Budget AND Appropriations Bills	✓	
<u>Withholds Pay Permanently</u> (Once Gone, Cannot Be Recouped)	✓	
<u>Permanent</u>, Not Just One Year	✓	